

12/24 March 1887.

Panteleemonskaia No. 8,
St. Petersburg.

Dearest and

Very Reverend Dean:

It is only this morning that I received a note from Mr. Pobedonoskeff (the Ober-Procurator), informing me of the arrival of an answer from the Bishop of the Taurida, concerning the stone for St. Clements Church at Chicago.

I went to see this answer at Mr. Pobedonoskeff's chancery, and this is what it contains:

The Bishop says that, according to the information of the Head of the Chirsonness Monastery, the Archimandrite Innocent, the wish of the builder of St. Clements Ch. at Chicago, concerning a stone from the ruins of the old Church at Chirsoness, can be fulfilled by the sending of one of three stones, of which the first is a plain block of marble 2ft. 10 inches long, 1 foot broad and 9 inches thick, and weighs about 330 English pounds. The second is a piece of a round marble column $10\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter, 7 inches in height and weighing about 60 pounds with a cross cut in the column. The third is a marble slab from the old iconostasia flat on both sides and with remnants on both sides of crosses cut in the marble. The height of this slab is one foot, the breadth about 9 inches and it is about $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches in thickness, and weighs about 25 pounds.

All these three stones belong to the ruins of the old St. Clements Church in Chirsoness. The Monastery is ready to offer any one of these three stones to the church now building in Chicago. I told Mr. Nenarokomoff (the Director of the Chancery of the Ober-Procurator, who showed me the Bishop's letter) that I would communicate its contents to you.

After I received an answer from you, concerning the choice of the stone, I will give Mr. Nenarokomoff this answer and the address to which the stone should be sent to London, care of B.F. Stevens, Esq., directly from Sebastopol, so that Mr. Stevens, on receiving the stone might pay the expense of the freight &c of the stone, and that monastery would not then incur any expense in the sending.

My wife and I both sincerely wish you a Merry Easter. We hope to spend Easter in the country near Moscow. On my return here, after the Easter holidays, I hope to find your letter with the answer concerning the stones.

Asking for your prayers during Holy and Easter week, I beg you always to believe me,

Yours most faithfully,

Serge Shipoff Schoultz.

Cathedral Close,

Davenport, Iowa.

April 13-87.

My dear Mr. Armour:

I enclose the main parts of a letter just received from my friend, Sergius A. Shipoff-Schoultz, Esq., 8 Panteleemonskaia, St. Petersburg, Russia. Mr. Shipoff-Schoultz is a leading official in the Russian State Department and a good kind friend.

I forward an envelope addressed to him and containing a few lines from myself, which you please read and kindly enclose in the same envelope a letter from yourself giving directions as to sending telling which stone to send etc. My idea is that No. 2 is the best. It would be a great thing to have the ancient cross cut in the marble. No. 1 seems to have no carving and on No. 3 it seems to be indistinct. You could slice off a thin piece or two from the lower part of the column for the mosaic work of which you spoke and keep

the chief part to build into the wall as it is.

I know you will not forget to thank Mr. Shipoff-Schoultz and through him the ober-Pivanater, the Bishop, the Archimandrite and all concerned for a kindness. Pray tell him a little about your plans as to St. Clements Ch., promise him a photograph of it &c. All this he would highly appreciate.

Pardon my suggestions and believe me with best regards and kindest wishes for you all,

Yrs Most faithfully,

Chas. R. Hale.

P. S. You see he spells his name "Serge". This is French rather than English. I always write Sergius. I send a duplicate envelope for your next letter to him.

Please give your address in London to be put on the box very plainly and if possible in print to guard against mistakes. You have I suppose one of the printed addresses you gave me.

You may bear in mind that Russians are Orientals, and that very complimentary language would not be out of place in addressing one.

St. Petersb.

Panteleemonskaia, 8,

27 April

9 May, 1887.

Dear Sir:

Dean Hale informs me he has transmitted to London my letter to him with the answer concerning the stone from the ruins of the old St. Clements church in the Chersones for the new St. Clements church you build at Chicago.

The answer proposes one of three stones, a very big and heavy one of simple marble, a much smaller piece of a round marble column

less than a foot in diameter with a cross cut out upon it, and lastly a marble plank polished on both sides, part of the old iconostasis, and remains of crosses on both sides about a foot long, $\frac{3}{4}$ of a foot broad and 2 inches thick.

Which of these stones will you have for the church you are building? I think the monastery would consent to give for your church even more than one of these stones, provided you take upon yourself the expenses of the sending. Perhaps the stone might be sent from Sebastopol to London by sea. I wait for your letter indicating your choice and giving instructions as to the manner of sending the chosen stone. All these I will, on receiving them, transmit to the Chancery of the Ober-procurator of the Synod, to be transmitted to the monastery, offering the stone for the American Church.

I enclose an envelope with my address in Russian.

Yours very truly,

Serge Shipoff-Schoultz.

Cathedral Close,

Davenport, Iowa.

Dear Mr. Armour:

I wrote you, about six weeks since if I mistake not, telling you what I had heard about the stone from St. Clements Ch. Chersonnes, in the Crimea, the place of St. Clement's martyrdom, enclosing also two envelopes addressed to my friend in St. Petersburg who has so kindly and efficiently attended to the matter.

I thought I should have heard from you in regard to it ere this, and that he also would have heard from you. I have just had a line from him saying he has not heard; so to guard against accident, I repeat the substance of my former letter. My friend says:

"The Bishop of Taurida says that the wish of the builder of St. Clement's Church, Chicago, concerning a stone from the ruins of the

old church at Chersonnes can be fulfilled by the sending of one of three stones:--

The first is 2 ft. 10 inches long, 1 foot broad, 9 inches thick, and weighs about 320 pounds and is of plain marble.

The second is a piece of a round marble column, $10\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter, 7 inches high and weighing about 58 pounds. This has a cross cut in the column.

The third is a small slab from the old iconostasia, flat on each side and on each side remnants of crosses. The height of this is about 1 foot, width 9 inches, thickness $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches, weight about 26 pounds.

All these stones belong to the ruins of the old St. Clements Ch. in Chersonnes. When I receive an answer from you concerning the choice of the stone, I will write to Mr. Nenarokomoff, the director of the Chancery of the Ober-Procurator, in regard to it, and give him the address to which the stone might be sent in London, to Mr. B. F. Stevens, directly from Sebastopol, so that Mr. Stevens on receiving the stone might pay all the expenses of sending."

I have given my friend the address of yourself and of Mr. B. F. Stevens, but think it would be in every way better (if you have not done so already) for you to write him direct, thank him, and through him, all concerned, for the kind attention, and give any directions that you may wish to give.

If you have written and have not heard by the time you get this, your letter may have miscarried and it might be wiser to write again. Stone No. 2 with a distinct cross seems the best, I think.

I enclose another addressed envelope to my friend.

Kindest regards for yourself,

Yrs. most faithfully,

Chas. R. Hale.

St. Petersburg,

Panteleimonskaia 8.

Dear Sir:

On my return before yesterday to Petersburg from the government of Moscow, I found your letter which had been expecting me ten days. I went the same evening to Mr. Pobedonostreff, the Oberprocurator of the Synod, to tell him with what joy and expressions of gratitude you receive the stone from the place of the martyrdom of the Saint we equally revere, and how you value the readiness of the monastery to present that stone or stones to the church you are building, and the offices of the persons, who all, As I personallu, can be but most happy to be instruments in bringing these stones to your new basilica as visible tokens of the links between our two churches. God grant these stones should lay the foundation of a still closer unity between them.

I did not see Mr. Pobedonostreff who was at Peterhoff with the Emperor and on the next day left Petersburg for Moscow and Smolensk. He must have heard before now what I intended to tell him from his wife, who is now travelling with him, and his brother in law. I translated a great part of your letter in Russian, received the 250 roubles at Feleisen's, and went with this translation and this money and the printed address (Stevens, 4 Trafalgar Square) to Mr. Pobedonostreff's chancery. There I related the whole affair to Mr. Chistovite, now at the head of this chancery. He was very happy to hear all I told him, took my note and the address, told me Mr. Pobedonostrfff would be back in a week and that he, Mr. Chistovite, would prepare a letter from him to the Bishop of Taurida and put in the letter the extracts of your epistle, which the Bishop, the Archimandrite and all the brotherhood of the monastery of the Chersoness will be most happy to read, and say in the letter that 250 roubles are enclosed in it, sent by you to the monastery for the

expenses of preparing, packing and sending the stones to the port, etc., but the money itself Mr. Chistovitch refused to take from me, saying I would surely see Mr. Pobedonostreff on his return, and as the letter must be signed by him, I had better give him the money personally and keep it myself till his arrival. Thus it is now in my desk waiting Mr. Pobedonostreff's arrival.

Now about your letter. I have translated punctually what you say about the two stones; the piece of the column and the plank the thanks which you are so kind to express to me personally, and which have so deeply touched me, I have translated in this form, that they are addressed to the monastery and the persons who have been intermediates in bringing you the gift of the monastery, and that the names of this monastery and these persons shall be marked near the stone on enduring material. I have added to this in parenthesis, that you inquire about the names of the Oberprocurator of the Synod, the Bishop of Taurida and the Archimandrite of the monastery of the Chersoness.

Now let me give these names:

The monastery itself is called, St. Vladimir's Monastery of the Chersoness. The Archimandrite of this monastery is called, Innocent. The Bishop of Taurida--Martinian. The Oberprocurator of the Synod -- Constantine Pobedonostreff.

Let me thank you with all my heart for all the expressions of friendship in your letter, which has given me so very much pleasure.

Believe me always,

Yours most truly,

Serge Shipoff-Schoultz.

14/26 June 1887.

Sunday, 21 June
1 July 1887.

Panteleimonskaia 8,

Dear Sir:

The Oberprocurator of the Synod, Mr. Pobedonostreff, came back to Petersburg yesterday and I saw him on the same day and transmitted to him personally the two hundred and fifty roubles to be sent from you to the Chersoness Monastery of St. Vladimir for paying the expenses of sending the two stones to London to your agent Mr. Stevens, 4 Trafalgar Square. Mr. Pobedonostreff was certainly pleased and touched by what I succeeded in telling him in a few minutes of the contents of your letter. From him I went to Mr. Fehistovich who was about to send to Mr. Pobedonostreff to be signed, the letter to the Bishop of Taurida, to be sent with your 250 roubles and a copy of the translation I have made of the greater part of your letter.

The letter and the money may be in the Bishop's hands in a week and soon afterwards the stones may be shipped off to London. I hope at least there will be no difficulty to ship them off from Sebastopol or Odessa.

Yours very truly,

Serge Shipoff-Schoultz.

Moscow, govt.,

Volokolamsk district,

Oosorovo,

29 August 1887
10 September

Dear Sir:

Many thanks for your kind letter I received here during my

last stay (sent over to me from Petersburg).

I have now returned from Petersburg where I received from the Chancery of Mr. Pobedonostreff, (the Oberprocurator of the Synod), a copy of a letter of the Bishop of Taurida, who informs the Oberprocurator that the stones for the church at Chicago will be sent to London by a vessel, that according to the information of the Secretary of the English Consulate at Sebastopol, was expected in that city about the 20 August 9 1 September) and was very soon after her arrival to sail for London. The Bishop adds that he charged Archimandrite Innocent, head of the monastery of the Chersoness, with the business of the sending of the stones and handed over to him the 250 roubles you have sent for that purpose.

He writes also that he will inform when the stones will have been sent. I will be very glad to receive the photograph of the church when it is erected but would also be very glad to receive now the photograph of the builder, your own photograph and thus become acquainted with you seeing your features at least in your portrait.

Very truly yours,

Serge Shipoff-Schoultz.

My Petersburg address remains

Panteleimonskaia 8.

Dear Mr. Armour:

I was extremely happy to receive your last letter and to learn the stones from the Chersoness have duly come to Chicago notwithstanding the tempest during their travel.

As you promised me your photograph and asked for mine, I have had my likeness taken before writing to you, and this took more time than I thought, for I had to sit many times before obtaining a portrait my wife at last approved.

I hope soon to receive your portrait, as you intended of having it taken when you last wrote. The building of the church at Chicago must have made little progress in winter but now the works must be advancing, and in a little more that a year I may hope with God's help to see the photograph of St. Clement's Church at Chicago.

I wish I could once see it in reality.

Yours very truly,

Serge Shipoff-Schoultz.

St. Petersburg,

Panteleimonskaia 8,

12/24 March 1888.